GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7905
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT
BODAKUNTI VENKATESHWARLU;RAM PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant were lathi-charged recently for raising their legitimate demands;

(b) if so, the whether the Government have looked into their demands;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to meet their demands?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL

(SHRI DILIP RAY)

(a) to (d): Some workers of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant were lathicharged recently by the Police, as they had violated prohibitory orders in force under Section 144 Cr. PC. The agitationwas to demand steps to be taken to avoid privatisation of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant had submitted a comprehensive turnaround proposal for its revival which inter-alia included waiver of losses. The Disinvestment Commission has recommended writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company as on 31.3.1999 alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity to a strategic buyer. The matter is in an advanced stage of inter-ministerial consultations. No final decision has yet been taken.